

September 20, 2000

Ms. Sheba Payton  
PO Box 2055  
Prentiss, MS 39474

Dear Ms. Payton:

Thank you for your letter regarding healthcare reform in Mississippi. We need to make health care easily available to every community in Mississippi. Quality available medical care shouldn't be considered a luxury for just a few.

We have laid the foundation for Mississippi to become a national health care leader. We have made health insurance available for the first time to thousands of children of working families through the Children's Health Insurance Program. We created a network of doctors, hospitals and paramedics throughout the state so that no matter where you are – or who you are – you can get the emergency medical attention you need that can save your life.

We have come a long way in recent years to improve the level of health care we provide in Mississippi. Working together, we can build a health care system that is the envy of the entire nation. I plan to work closely with our Legislature during the next three years to make this possible.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/bwl